THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) The quantity of opium seized from smugglers during the last three years is given below :

Year	Quantity in (Kg)
2000	2684
2001	2533
2002	1867

(b) and (c) The number of smugglers (Indian, foreign and total) arrested for opium smuggling during the last three years is as under:

Year	Number of persons arrested		
	Indian	Foreigners	Total
2000	1585	1	1586
2001	1401	2	1403
2003	1342	1	1343

Average rape cases in the country

4869. SHRI. K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the National Crime Research Bureau, on an average, 15,000 rapes are taking place every year;

(b) if so, the measures Government are taking to reduce this menace in the country;

(c) whether the Ministry can think of introducing capital punishments for the accused; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) As per data available with the National Crime Records Bureau, 15151, 15468, 16496 and 16619 rape cases were reported in the years 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 respectively in the country.

(b) The Government of India have been advising State Governments from time to time to give more focused attention to improving the administration of the criminal justice system and take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crime against women. Most of the States and Union Territories

have set up Sepecial cells to deal with crime against women. Many States have set up Police Stations managed exclusively by women police personnel to deal with crime against women and also inculcate a sense of confidence and security in women to approach a Police Station without fear or apprehension.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal under consideration of the Minisity introducing capital punishment to the accused in rape cases. The Malimath Committe, appointed by the Government to look into different aspects of reforming the criminal justice system, has in its report observed that, "after giving its anxious consideration to all aspects and in particular, the interest of the victim, the committee is not presuaded to recommend the death penalty for offences of rape".

Robberies in buses in Delhi

4870. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that since September last year, the capital has witnessed an increasing number of robberies in buses in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware that these were committed in broad day light; and

(c) if so, the steps Government are taking or have taken to stop such robberies in buses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) During the period from September, 2002 to 25th April, 2003, 15 cases of robberies in moving buses were reported in Delhi as against 21 such cases reported during the corresponding period of the years 2001 and 2002.

(b) Most of these incidents occurred during the day.

(c) The steps taken by Delhi Police to prevent robberies in moving buses include deployment of policemen in plain clothes in the buses plying over vulnerable routes; surprise checks at bus stops; encouraging the bus operators to report to the nearest police picket or PCR Van if they find any person indulging in unlawful activities inside the bus; targeting of gangs suspected to be indulging in such crimes and their neutralisation; and increased patrolling and surveillance.